

P30600.A03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicants : Tomoyuki NOGUCHI et al.

Group Art Unit: 2852

Appln. No. : 10/598,437

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

(U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP2005/003186)

I.A. Filed : February 25, 2005

Confirmation No. : 5047

For : FIXING DEVICE

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statement that was previously filed on December 7, 2006, Applicants hereby bring to the attention of the Examiner a Japanese Office Action dated April 8, 2008, with respect to patent family member Japanese Patent Application No. 2006-510654, in which the following documents were cited:

- (1) Japanese Patent Publication No. 2003-295644 A;
- (2) Japanese Patent Publication No. 2003-345195 A, together with an English language Abstract and partial English language translation thereof; and
- (3) Japanese Patent Publication No. 2003-270982 A.

The relevance of these documents, as ascertained with respect to the Japanese claims by the Japanese Examiner, is set forth in the Japanese Office Action.

Applicants note that documents (1) and (3) were previously cited in the Information Disclosure Statement that was filed on December 7, 2006. Thus, copies of these documents are not provided herewith.

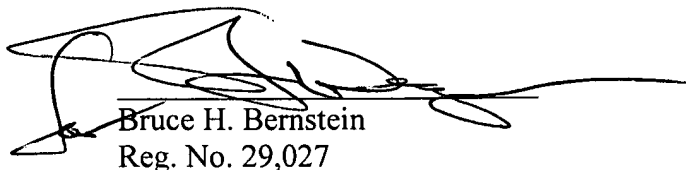
Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. A copy of above-noted Japanese document (2), including the noted English language Abstract and translation, is attached hereto, and is listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. Copies of the Japanese Office Action and English language translation are also attached hereto. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the present application, and thus, no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material. However, if an Office Action on the merits has issued and is crossing this statement in the mail, Applicants hereby certify that item (2) contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement, and thus no fee is required to ensure consideration of the submitted material.

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Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tomoyuki NOGUCHI et al.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce H. Bernstein", written over a horizontal line.

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June 24, 2008  
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